

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-52 have been cancelled.

Please amend claims 53, 72, 73, 77, 80-85 and 88 to
read as follows:

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53. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising the steps
of:

(a) providing a counterfeit resistant document
recording medium, having thereon a predefined unique
document identifier and at least one security feature;

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(b) defining a variable document content, comprising
at least one of text and graphic images, for imprinting on
an identified said recording medium by means of a computer
printer;

(c) storing the variable document content in a
database indexed by an associated document identifier; and

(d) authenticating the counterfeit resistant document
by authenticating the security feature and comparing the
stored document content with a perceived document content.

54. (Original) The method according to claim 53,
wherein said authenticating the security feature comprises
execution of a cryptographic process.

55. (Original) The method according to claim 53,
further comprising the step of financially accounting for
said storing.

C¹ 56. (Original) The method according to claim 53,
further comprising the step of financially accounting for
said authenticating.

Cont
B6 57. (Original) The method according to claim 53,
wherein said authenticating step comprises a local process
for authenticating the security feature and a remote process
for authenticating the document content.

58. (Original) The method according to claim 57,
wherein said remote process is asynchronous with and delayed
from said local process.

Claims 59-71 have been cancelled.

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B6 72. (Currently Amended) A method of authenticating a
document, comprising:

providing a document stock having ~~anti-counterfeit~~
features;

preprinting the document with an essentially unique
identifier;

defining a content for the document ~~having~~ comprising
at least one of text and graphic images;

generating an associated digital signature for
verification of the document content and said essentially
unique identifier; and

printing the content on the document stock by means of
a computer printer.

73. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim
72, further comprising the step of printing the digital
signature on the document stock by means of the computer
printer.

74. (Original) The method according to claim 73,
further comprising the step of authenticating the document
by verifying that the digital signature corresponds to the
document content and essentially unique identifier.

75. (Original) The method according to claim 72, further comprising the step of receiving the digital signature and authenticating the document by verifying that the digital signature corresponds to the document content and essentially unique identifier.

76. (Original) The method according to claim 72, wherein the anticounterfeit features comprise a set of visually distinct fibers in said document stock.

77. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 72, wherein the document stock has anticounterfeit features ~~comprises a lithographed pattern printed on said document~~ stock.

78. (Original) The method according to claim 72, wherein the essentially unique identifier comprises a composite of a random portion and a predictable portion.

79. (Original) The method according to claim 72, further comprising the step of accounting to a content proprietor for a printing of the document.

80. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 79, wherein said accounting comprises issuing a request for the document content and electronic payment information; and receiving content and its associated digital signature.

81. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 72, wherein said preprinting step comprises printing with a computer printer having using a non-secure communications channel.

82. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 72, wherein said printing step comprises printing with a said computer printer having using a non-secure communications channel.

83. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 72, wherein said printing step comprises communicating the essentially unique identifier over a network to a server, receiving the document content over the network from the server, and printing the received content on the document stock.

84. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 72, wherein said providing and ~~preprinted~~ preprinting steps are conducted securely.

85. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 72 77, wherein the anticounterfeit features comprise at least one of a lithographed pattern printed on the document stock and an integral non-deterministic characteristic of the document stock.

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86. (Original) The method according to claim 85, wherein the non-deterministic characteristic comprises a fiber pattern, further comprising the steps of recording the fiber pattern prior to said printing, and authenticating the document stock by comparing a consistency of the recorded fiber pattern with a fiber pattern determined at a time of authentication.

87. (Original) The method according to claim 72, further comprising the step of authenticating the document based on a public key-private key algorithm which

authenticates the essentially unique identifier together with the document content.

88. (Currently Amended) An authenticatable recording medium, comprising:

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a document stock having counterfeit resistant features;
an imprinted tamper resistant unique identifier on the document stock; and

a content recording surface with a blank area suitable for printing at least one of text and graphic images by means of a computer printer.

89. (Original) The authenticatable recording medium according to claim 88, further comprising information content recorded on the content recording surface.

90. (Original) The authenticatable recording medium according to claim 89, further comprising a self-authenticating message recorded on the content recording surface for authenticating the information content and the tamper resistant unique identifier.

91. (Original) The authenticatable recording medium according to claim 88, further comprising an ascertainable integral non-deterministic characteristic of the document stock.

92. (Original) The authenticatable recording medium according to claim 91, wherein the non-deterministic characteristic comprises a fiber pattern.

93. (Original) The authenticatable recording medium according to claim 88, wherein the imprinted tamper resistant unique identifier comprises a predictable portion and a random portion.